

**Morse Code** is a viable mode of communication. Both technician class operators and others use it in the VHF/UHF amateur spectrum where technician class operators have privileges. But since it is a mode, no different than packet, or any other digital mode, it **should not be used as a barrier** as to whether a technically competent operator may obtain privileges to operate in the HF amateur spectrum. I support maintaining engineering proficiency as the litmus test, but not Morse Code to obtain HF privileges. However, I am very supportive to maintaining the allocation and dedication of a portion of the radio spectrum to CW only and digital only modes and hope that the FCC will support this proposition.